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POPULATION, HEALTH & NUTRITION

ENHANCED AND RAPID IMPROVEMENT IN COMMUNITY HEALTH (ENRICH) PROJECT - THE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FUND (CCF)

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The project's goal is to improve the community health in Basilan, one of the provinces in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The general objective of the family planning component is to create an environment within the family and community that supports contraceptive choices. The specific objectives include increases over baseline marks on the following indicators: 1) modern contraceptive rate by 10%; 2) natural method rate by 10%; 3) knowledge on FP methods by 20%; and 4) couples who state that they have spoken to their spouse about FP by 10%.

The general objective of the TB component is to increase the referral and cure rates in target communities. The specific objectives include: 1) establishment of public-private mix delivery model to increase case identification (active surveillance and referral) and treatment; 2) provision of training and capacity building on TB DOTS to at least 75% of community health volunteers; 3) establishment of a fully operational DOTS Center at Basilan General Hospital; and 4) attainment of at least 75% cure rate using DOTS.

Visit our website:
www.usaid-ph.gov
keywords: DOTS, tuberculosis

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project Basilan covers 60 barangays that have low family planning performance, alarming population growth rate, and the existence of serious health problems like TB. FP and TB programs in the province are at stand still because the areas outside the EnRICH coverage received no medicines and supplies during the last two years.

The population of the target municipalities is placed at 324,748 with an average growth rate placed at 2.82%. The fast growth in the population contributes to the deterioration of the economic condition of the individual household and the economy of Basilan.

Outside of the EnRICH-covered areas in Basilan, no data are available to indicate the following: (i) the scope and

geographical reach of their TB program; (ii) multiple TB drug resistance in the area; (iii) estimated demand for TB.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- **Change Communication Approach.** Towards (a) improving maternal and child health through appropriate birth spacing, (b) increasing the number of couples adopting FP methods (c) eradicating TB, and (d) convincing the LGUs to support FP and TB control and treatment program through adequate and sustained financial support.
- **Community and Social Mobilization.** Working in partnership with the indigenous community-based organizations and the government health and family planning service providers and take them through a participatory process in planning and implementing interventions
- **Establishment of Community Health Teams (CHTs).** Geared towards building community support with representation from different interest groups, religious sectors, health staff, and local government stakeholders.
- **Focused-group discussion and focused messages.** Co-managed by the CHT members that facilitate a more personal interaction among families in the neighborhood.
- **Involvement of Religious Leaders.** Soliciting their continued active participation in the education and value formation at the community level.
- **Partnerships.** Towards strengthening the community and government organizations, and creating synergy and pooling of resources from both parties, thus establishing an environment of cooperation and trust.
- **Institutional Capacity Building.** Intended for major stakeholders on birth spacing; fertility awareness; treatment, prevention and management of TB.
- **Establishing DOTS Center for Basilan.** Clinic-based TB DOTS Center in strategic areas to support the RHUs, Basilan General Hospital in Isabela City and possibly at the Edeborah Yap Memorial Hospital in the Municipality of Lamitan.



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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Undertakings that mitigate the barriers to successful FP/TB program, e.g., emerging positive change in attitude of couples towards family planning
- Institutionalization of community-based health program that amplifies the role of the community in the delivery of health information & services and increases people's awareness on FP issues & the importance of eradicating TB
- Involvement of Muslim Religious Leaders and issuance of a provincial *fatwa* in support of FP
- Collective effect of the different approaches and strategies adopted by the project lead to the following accomplishments:

Tuberculosis (TB)

• Cured	204
• Completed	98
• On Treatment	140
• Defaulter, died, transferred	65

Family Planning (FP)

• BTL	216
• Pills	1,425
• Condom	315
• IUD	37
• Natural	91